

CONSTRUCTION WITHIN ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS (ESA)

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to aid developers and contractors to determine whether or not their project is within areas listed as environmentally sensitive areas.

Environmentally Sensitive Criteria

A project is:	If it meets one or more of these criteria:
Within an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA)	The project is located within 200 feet of lands or receiving waters designated as <u>any</u> of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Tributary to a Clean Water Act 303(d) Water Body,B. RARE beneficial use,C. Areas of Significant Biological Significance (ASBS),D. Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP),E. And any other equivalent environmentally sensitive areas which have been identified by the County

Available Resources

- A) To check your property for ESA Clean Water Act **Section 303(d)** impaired water bodies, use the SANGIS Interactive Mapping at:

<http://www.sangis.org/SangisInteractive/viewer/viewer.asp>

- I. Select “Stormwater” tab
- II. Select “303 d Listed Rivers and Beaches”
- III. Select “303 d Bays Estuaries and Lakes”
- IV. Select “County Environmentally Sensitive Areas”

Another source is SUSMP Appendix A found at:

http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dpw/watersheds/susmp/susmppdf/susmp_appendix_a.pdf

For the **303(d) List** of all impaired water bodies, see internet site address

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/docs/303dlists2006/epa/r9_06_303d_reqtmdls.pdf

- B) Water bodies designated with the **RARE Beneficial Use** (see pages 2-16 through 2-67 of the document by the State Water Resources Control Board, Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (1994) and amendments found at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/docs/update102207/chapter2_042507.pdf

- C) Areas designated as **Areas of Special Biological Significance** by the State Water Resources Control Board, Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (1994) and amendments;
- D) Areas designated as preserves or their equivalent under the **Multiple Species Conservation Program** (MSCP) within the Cities and County of San Diego. For the MSCP Map see: <http://gis.co.san-diego.ca.us/imf/sites/mscp>)
- E) All discretionary projects go through initial review and are checked for ESA applicability. County Counter Staff are available to check and determine if your subject property is within ESA or not.

Applicability to Your Site

For all developments located within or directly adjacent to or discharging directly to an ESA (where discharges from the development or redevelopment will enter receiving waters within the ESA), the developer must provide protection of the grading site perimeter, environmentally sensitive areas, watercourses and at operational internal inlets to the storm drain system. Protection shall be accomplished through use of filtration devices, silt fencing, straw, coconut fiber or wood fiber-rolls, gravel bag barriers, or gravel inlet filters. Capture of sediment and dust shall also be accomplished through use of storm-drain inlet protection and construction road stabilization.

Stormwater discharges from the site may not contain sediments that differ in composition or in amounts in excess of the sediments that would have been discharged from the site in an undisturbed condition. Monitoring of turbidity and suspended solids at similar undisturbed sites under similar storm conditions may be used to establish baselines for applying this standard. This monitoring would apply to projects that directly discharge into a 303d-List water body or 200 feet upstream of it as provided in section “B” above.

Offsite and Onsite Sediment Control

The Developer must eliminate off-site sediment tracking through use of stabilized construction entrances/exits and sweeping year round (for more details see Section 6 of Caltrans Stormwater Quality Handbook found at:

http://www.caltrans.ca.gov/hq/construc/stormwater/CSBMPPM_303_Final.pdf).

Developers must eliminate sediment movement from unpaved to paved areas that drain to a MS4 facility by implementing stabilized construction entrances; coarse gravel, steel shaker plates, installing fiber rolls, silt fences, or other devices approved by the Director, and limit access into/out of dirt areas.

Additional Controls for Construction Sites

Additional controls have been established for private and municipal construction projects that are within, tributary to, adjacent to, or discharging directly to receiving waters of an Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA).

If DPW determines that a project meets one of the environmentally sensitive criteria above, the project will be increased to a high frequency inspection schedule. If DPLU determines that a minor grading project or building construction project meets one of the

environmentally sensitive criteria above, the department will provide applicants with a “ESA package” during the permit review process.

Effective combination of erosion and sediment control BMP’s should be considered in all Environmentally Sensitive Areas.

Other References:

NPDES Order 2007: http://www.projectcleanwater.org/pdf/permit_r9-2007-0001.pdf

Watershed Protection Ordinance (WPO) No. 9926:

http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/cob/ordinances/index_2008.html

Stormwater Standard Manual (Appendix A to the Watershed Protection Stormwater Management and Discharge Control Ordinance

<http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/dpw/watersheds/watershedpdf/watershed-std-manual.pdf>